

lished under the auspices of this Society, a State Educational Journal.

It is hardly necessary to dwell on the advantages of such associations. Such organized unions of its friends have been found useful in promoting every worthy enterprise; and in none are they more needed than in a system of Common Schools where so much depends on a healthy condition of public opinion, and in regard to which the public are so little inclined to think for themselves.

In this State Association all questions relating to the schools can be discussed together by all the leading teachers, and the local school officers of the State; any here, also, may be gathered the views, and united and made public as common property, the experience of all laborers of every class in all the various departments of instruction.

By such an association individual practices are brought to the test of public opinion, and this public opinion is made to bear on local errors, and to war on selfish movements resulting generally from a sense of isolation. The teacher's calling is elevated—the educational resources of the State are developed, united and directed to one end; and the people of the State soon learn the importance of this interest, and the necessity of fostering it with more care and liberality.

Here, also, is erected a home tribunal to influence the popular mind in regard to the merits of text books, modes of teaching, and plans of reform; and thus we become accustomed to rely on ourselves for this important kind of information, instead of looking, as in the past, to foreign sources.

The influence of the State Association is widened by local and affiliated societies and by its Journal; and this Periodical is, also, of indispensable importance as an organ of communication between the General Superintendent of Common Schools and teachers and subordinate officers of the system, a vast number of whom cannot be otherwise reached directly and at regular intervals.

In this respect the Journal of Education is a prime necessity; and as, for reasons unnecessary to mention, it is not